



KEESLER NEWS

KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Train to Fight. Train to Win.

NOV. 18, 2010 VOL. 71 NO. 45



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Servant leadership or self-serving leadership?

By Senior Master Sgt. Scott Strickland

81st Medical Operations Squadron commander

Some people in leadership positions fail to serve others. Instead they become self-serving leaders.

Self-serving leaders spend most of their time worrying about themselves instead of serving those for whom they are responsible. This can have a destructive influence within an organization.

When asked about servant leadership, former Secretary of Defense William Cohen stated it best, "My research debunks the myth that many people seem to have...that you become a leader by fighting your way to the top. Rather, you become a leader by helping others to the top. Helping your employees is as important, and many times more so, than trying to get the most work out of them."

So what does it take to become an effective "servant leader" to assure the success of the organization?

First, know your people.

Do you know the different personalities along with the strengths and weaknesses of every member in your work center? Have you studied leadership theories or sought a mentor to explain how to motivate certain personality types? By knowing your people's differing personalities, strengths and weaknesses and acquiring specific personality-driven leadership theories, you can maximize individual performance.

Second, listen to your people.

The most junior members have some of the best ideas to improve organizational effectiveness. Don't feel threatened by this. Take time to actually listen to your people at all levels; this can help motivate and inspire them by making them feel they are part of the team.

Third, support, praise and redirect your people.

One of the best ways to support your people is to

actually take time to discover what they need to be successful. Praise your subordinates for the work they do. This could be demonstrated by a simple pat on the back for a job well done or by taking time to prepare an award package. When necessary, redirect someone who has fallen off track by attacking the issue, not the individual.

I would encourage all Airmen to reflect and thoughtfully assess the degree to which you motivate and inspire subordinates towards the goal of organizational success. Do you rely solely on your rank and only take care of yourself? Or have you earned your people's respect by being a servant leader? When followers have trust and confidence in a leader they are transformed into willing participants, rather than being merely compliant.

The bottom line is an effective leader serves his or her people by motivating and inspiring them to meet organizational goals benefitting everyone, not just themselves.

It's our obligation to protect our cyber network

By Tech. Sgt. Amaani Lyle

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — If your biggest cyberspace worry is that your mom or boss will see that embarrassing Facebook photo of you flailing in the conga line during last weekend's party, think again.

Technology has exponentially advanced the way we communicate, but the natural trade-off is the heightened need for cybersecurity, particularly the need as total force Airmen, and citizens, to protect our cyber network.

All Americans must understand their responsibility to secure cyber networks. This includes creating strong, varying passwords, proper computer disposal, phishing avoidance and more. The theme, "Stop. Think. Connect." highlights keener awareness and "provides an opportunity to learn more about the importance of cybersecurity."

With cryptic, hieroglyphic symbols and letter combinations on various sticky notes, I can't tell you how many times I've pulled my hair out, wondering how anyone can think "NerpTrop123" is a weak password because it's too close to a real word. I've come up with what I'm sure are

entire new languages during the password reset process.

And, I'll bet many users share my frustration, thinking, this is nuts! It's me, not the hackers, who always seems to be "locked out" of my computer because I can't ever remember my ever-expiring passwords.

Change your desktop, laptop home and office passwords frequently.

A strong password doesn't have to be hard to remember. It just needs to be hard to guess. Simple phrases can become upper and lower case letters, numbers and symbols, which help deter some hackers who can go through every word in the dictionary to guess your password.

For example, I love cheeseburgers could magically become "I<3CHzeBRgr\$."

You wouldn't junk or sell a car with all your personal information in it, right? And so it goes for computers.

According to OnGuard Online, when you delete a file, the links



between the index and the file disappear, signaling to your system that the file isn't needed any longer, and that hard drive space can be overwritten. However, the bits and pieces of the deleted file stay on your computer until they're overwritten, and they can be retrieved with a data recovery program. To remove data from your hard drive permanently, it needs to be wiped clean.

You can use online and store-bought software to wipe your personal hard drive clean when you sell or dispose of a computer. Network administrators will wipe government computers that are on their way to disposal or new homes. For personal units, just remember to back up everything you care to keep to an external drive such as a USB drive, a CD-ROM, or an external hard drive, or transfer them to a new computer.

While it may be flattering to think that the mysteriously wealthy refugee of a rogue nation has selected you and

only you for which to deposit his millions in currency, you can count on this situation nearly always being a phishing scam.

Never reply to an e-mail, text or pop-up message that asks for personal or financial information, and don't click on links in the message. If you want to go to a bank or business's website, actually type — not cut and paste — the web address into your browser. Don't play foreign lotteries and don't believe you've won one if you've never played.

Remember that wiring money is like sending cash: once it's gone, it's irretrievable.

Finally, never, ever agree to deposit a check from someone you don't know and then wire money back to them.

Onguard Online has many more tips to keep you cyber savvy.

Visit <http://www.onguardonline.gov> or http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2010/0410_cybersec/ for more information about cyber security.

In a recent proclamation, President Barack Obama said, "Americans can learn about and become more aware of risks in cyberspace, and be empowered to make choices that contribute to our overall security."

ON THE COVER

Members of the state flag team from the 332nd Training Squadron march in Saturday's annual Gulf Coast Veterans Day parade in Biloxi. Keesler representatives also participated in last week's Veterans of Foreign Wars Mississippi Medal of Honor Recipients monument unveiling in Wiggins, Biloxi Veterans Affairs Medical Center celebration, Biloxi American Legion Post 33 ceremony, Gulfport American Legion Post 119 ceremony, Biloxi High School veterans program and Gulfport's joint Disabled American Veterans Chapter 5 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2539 program. More photos, Page 8.

Photo by Adam Bond



KEESLER NEWS

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DRAGONS ON THE STREET

By Kemberly Groue

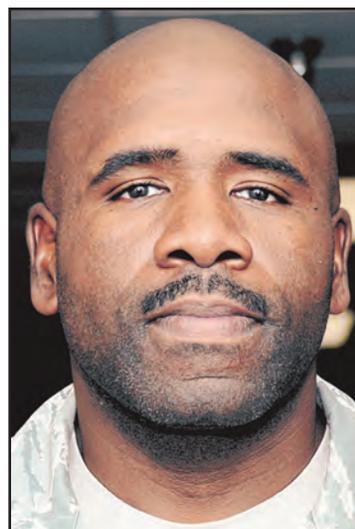
Keesler News photojournalist

What is your
favorite season?
Why?



"Fall — cooler temperatures after the heat wave."

Tech. Sgt. Steven Clinton,
81st Training Group



"Fall — football!"

Master Sgt. Joseph Wheeler,
81st Inpatient Operations
Squadron



"Fall, with the holidays and family gatherings."

Capt. Christina Hills,
403rd Wing

More news, videos, information and photos on the Web at <http://www.keesler.af.mil>

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

New commander takes reins of AETC

Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Gen. Edward Rice took command of Air Education and Training Command from Gen. Stephen Lorenz during a ceremony here Wednesday.

“The set of activities for which the United States Air Force is responsible is extremely complex,” said General Rice, who previously commanded U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force. “Finding and developing the types of men and women who can not only execute these activities in today’s highly dynamic environment, but who can shape the future in a way that allows us to continue to be dominate in the years ahead is a breathtaking responsibility.”

AETC, headquartered in San Antonio, is the Air Force major command responsible for recruiting, training and educating America’s Airmen through innovation. With an assigned force



of more than 70,000 active-duty Airmen, Reservists and civilians, AETC trains and educates more than 340,000 American and international students each year on bases throughout the country.

“What we do here matters a great deal,” General Rice said. “I am honored to join your team today as we continue to meet the vital mission of recruiting and developing the Airmen who will keep our Air Force and Nation strong today, and tomorrow.”

A 1978 distinguished graduate of the Air Force Academy, General Rice is a command pilot with more than 3,900 flying hours. He has considerable experience in combat and contingency operations, including commanding bomber operations during the first four months of Operation Enduring Freedom as the commander of the 28th Air Expeditionary Wing. He also served as commander of the Air Force Recruiting Service.



General Rice

The Airman's Creed

*I am an American Airman.
I am a Warrior:
I have answered my nation's call.*

*I am an American Airman.
My mission is to fly, fight and win.
I am faithful to a proud heritage,
A tradition of honor,
And a legacy of valor.*

*I am an American Airman,
guardian of freedom and justice,
My nation's sword and shield,
Its sentry and avenger.
I defend my country with my life.*

*I am an American Airman:
Wingman, leader, warrior.
I will never leave an Airman behind,
I will never falter
and I will not fail.*

CCAF ceremony honors 143 graduates

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

At the Nov. 9 Community College of the Air Force fall commencement ceremony, 143 students received associate degrees, with 160 diplomas presented.

Graduates are:

2nd Air Force — Staff Sgt. Ashley Brunson; Tech. Sgts. Michael Doane and Melissa Gallaher; Chief Master Sgt. Malcolm Golson.

81st Aerospace Medicine Squadron — Senior Airman Bradley Louk.

81st Communications Squadron — Staff Sgt. Frank Harris.

81st Dental Squadron — Airman 1st Class Raul Gesmundo and Staff Sgt. Michelle Johnson.

81st Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron — Senior Airmen Amanda Burt and Nina Valdez; Staff Sgts. Kimberly Sylvester and Nicholas Verhaagh; Tech. Sgts. Katherine Blade and Michele Chapman; Master Sgt. Curtis Thomas.

81st Force Support Squadron — Staff Sgt. Christina Gagnon; Tech. Sgt. Bryan Dochnahl.

81st Infrastructure Division — Senior Airman Mark Born.

81st Inpatient Operations Squadron — Senior Airman Claire Sundquist; Staff Sgt. Gabriel Muller; Master Sgt. Jesse Harris.

81st Medical Group — Airman 1st Class Seung Park; Staff Sgt. Nornil Villaflores; Tech. Sgt. Craig Hutchinson.

81st Medical Operations Squadron — Senior Airman Robert Tipton; Staff Sgts. Trey Garner, Stephanie Lantigua-Tipton, Ashli Maldonado, Diarra Morris and Matthew Parker.

81st Medical Support Squadron — Senior Airmen Emmanuel Balderas, Jennifer Gesmundo and Consuelo Patterson; Staff Sgts. Brittney Homick, Ashley Iovieno, Lionel Jordan and Lynn Rinker; Master Sgt. Jermaine Thomas.

81st Mission Support Group — Senior Airman



Sergeant Danko



Sergeant Iovieno



Sergeant Schmidt

Scholarships awarded to 5 graduates

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

Five students received scholarship awards at the Community College of the Air Force graduation Nov. 9.

Tech. Sgt. Shannon Danko and Staff Sgts. Ashley Iovieno and Kyle Schmidt received \$400 Pitsenbarger Awards and \$100 excellence awards from William Carey University.

Sergeant Danko, 366th Training Squadron Detachment 6 at the Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, is majoring in respiratory therapy with California College.

Sergeant Iovieno, 81st Medical Support Squadron, is in the nursing preparatory program at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College. MGCCC also presented her with a \$100 award.

Sergeant Schmidt, 335th TRS, is majoring in business



Sergeant Barrera

administration/finance with Columbia Southern University.

MGCCC also presented \$100 awards to Staff Sgt. Gilbert Barrera, 332nd TRS, who plans to pursue a degree in computer science technology at the University of Southern Mississippi, and



Airman Maldonado

Senior Airman Ashli Maldonado, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, who's majoring in biological sciences at USM.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University gave each of the 55 students in attendance at the ceremony a \$100 excellence award.

Jazmin Jones; Tech. Sgt. Pricothy Brown.

81st Security Forces Squadron — Staff Sgts. Adam Cooper and Alex Girouard; Tech. Sgts. Shaun Moylan and Chad Pedersen.

81st Surgical Operations Squadron — Senior Airmen Christina Lutz and Promesha Sloan; Staff Sgts. Hendra Bap-

tiste and Anthony Manney; Tech. Sgt. Lavada Singleton.

81st Training Wing — Staff Sgts. Cynthia Brockes and Charles White; Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Linville, Burke Mills, Jessica Murphy and James Yerger.

85th Engineering Installation Squadron — Staff Sgt. Ramsey Gardner; Master Sgt. Raymond George.

332nd Training Squadron — Staff Sgts. Leslie Ambrus, Gilbert Barrera, John Brahm, Jason Buck, Jerime LeBlanc and Michael Lepire; Tech. Sgt. Steven Clinton.

333rd TRS — Staff Sgts. Trenton Bland and Jerrico Melton; Tech. Sgt. Jeremiah Ramage; Master Sgt. Lee Wright.

334th TRS — Senior Airman Michael Stafford; Staff Sgts. Sedric Applewhite, Sha-londa Applewhite, George Bonney, James Boone, Monica Garcia, Scott Hanna, James Hawk, Guy Miller, Anita Robinson, Brandon Smith and Nicholas Volz; Tech. Sgt. Theresa Frankovsky and Adam Malson; Master Sgts. Ishasia Love Murphy and Fred Woodruff.

335th TRS — Staff Sgts. Anthony Bell, Jonathan Berry, Brandon Harris, Joseph Hendrickson, Marcus Jones, Trevor Killip, Cody Pryer, Daniel Rygiel, Kyle Schmidt, Brian Stokes, Eric Villaveva and Leroy Wright; Marine Corps Sgt. Marshall Williams; Tech. Sgts. Lorraine Cibak, Aaron Downing, Glynn Holmes, Albert Jackson, Daniel Mike, Matthew Pogreba and Nakia Smith; Marine Corps Gunnery Sgts. Jason Little and James Wright.

336th TRS — Airman 1st Class Brittany Dulaney; Staff Sgts. Angel Ball, Scott Mendoza; Tech. Sgts. Gary Hutcherson, Daniel Mike; Master Sgts. Russell Fletcher and Jimmie Rice.

338th TRS — Staff Sgts. Aaron Howard, Marcus Jones, Thomas Rich, Shawn Rykken, Sharon Siciliano, Michael Taylor, Jason Viglione and Brian Walsh; Tech. Sgts. Henry Combs, Michael Farmer and Clayton Herron; Master Sgts. Michael Eichman, Charles Gallaher, Lancer Gilliam and Raymond Hudman.

366th TRS Detachment 6 — Staff Sgts. Donald Donnell and Patrick Wiseman; Tech. Sgt. Shannon Danko.

403rd Wing — Staff Sgts. Deanna Attaway, Matthew Slaydon, Michael Stansbury, Michelle Stevenson and Octavia Taylor; Tech. Sgts. Jason Carpenter, James Comstock, Brandon Parish; Master Sgts. Wesley Brantley, Christopher Davis and Josephine Johnson.

Mathies NCO Academy — Tech. Sgts. Gerald Booth and Raun Howell; Senior Master Sgt. Jimmy Tucker.

College classes move

On-base college classes for Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, William Carey University, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University and University of Southern Mississippi have relocated to Dolan Hall while Allee Hall is undergoing renovations for the next nine months.

Academy briefing

An Air Force Academy briefing is 10 a.m. Nov. 30 in the education services center, Room 224, Sablich Center.

Jan. 31 is the deadline for enlisted members to submit applications.

Parking lot closed

The Mathies NCO Academy parking lot is closed 7-10:45 a.m. Dec. 7 for drill evaluations.

ROTC at USA

The University of South Alabama offers a four-year ROTC program for qualified students wishing to pursue an Air Force commission.

The campus is 60 miles from Keesler and offers Alabama in-state tuition rates to residents of George, Greene, Harrison, Jackson, Perry and Stone Counties in Mississippi.

For more information, call 1-251-460-7211 or e-mail robertpatt@usouthal.edu.

OTS boards

The Officer Training School recruiting services board schedule is:

11OT01 — rated board;

application cutoff Dec. 2; board date Jan. 24-28, estimated release date Feb. 25.

11OT02 — nonrated board; application cutoff Feb. 24; board date April 11-15; estimated release date June 2.

11OT03 — rated as needed; application cutoff June 23, board date Aug. 8-12; estimated release date Sept. 9, 2011.

DANTES procedures

The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support won't fund re-testing on a previously funded exam title for the College Level Examination Program, Excelsior College Examinations and DANTES Subject Standardized Tests.

Service members taking these exams who don't receive a passing score won't be allowed to retest as a DANTES-funded candidate on a previously funded exam of the same title. However, they may personally pay for a retest after waiting the requisite period of time.

This includes spouses and civil service personnel of Reserve components and Coast Guard.

For more information, call education services, 376-8708.

Civilian training

Information about civilian training opportunities is available from the civilian force development corner on the Keesler public Web site, <http://www.keesler.af.mil/civilianforcedevelopmentcenter.asp>

IN THE NEWS

Combined Federal Campaign

As of Nov. 11, \$142,441.81 has been pledged during Keesler's Combined Federal Campaign, more than 105 percent of this year's goal of \$135,542.

The campaign ended Monday.

Assistance for citizenship seekers

Legal office

From 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. today, a representative from the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is in the legal office to meet with military members, their families, retirees and their dependents to answer questions about the immigration application process and how being a military member helps the immigration process.

Walk-ins and appointments are welcome. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 376-8601.

Ploesti Drive closes for repairs

81st Infrastructure Division

Ploesti Drive from the Pass Road Gate to just west of Triangle Chapel is closed starting Nov. 29 to repair a gas leak near the intersection of Ploesti and Hercules Street.

Hercules Street is closed south of Falcon Street to Ploesti.

The work should be completed by Dec. 13.

Storm water plans

81st Infrastructure Division

Keesler is in the process of reviewing and updating its Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and the Storm Water Management Plan as required by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality.

For more information or to participate in storm water program development, call 377-1262.

Early Keesler News deadline

The Keesler News is published Nov. 24, one day earlier than usual, because of the Thanksgiving Day federal holiday on Feb. 25

The submission deadline for that issue is noon today.

Wing calendar event-planning

The 81st Training Wing events calendar at <http://www.keesler.af.mil/events/index.asp> is designed to help organizers avoid conflicts with other events.

Once an official date is set, event planners should send details to the public affairs organizational box, 81trw.pa@keesler.af.mil. Most items are posted within one business day.

Items that must be included are the name of event, date, time, location and a point of contact.

Events should be coordinated and approved through respective chains of command and be mission-relevant to a wide audience. All inputs are subject to review and editing by the 81st Training Wing Public Affairs office.

Dragons deployed — 248

Celebrations honor veterans



Photo by Adam Bond

From left, the Keesler Honor Guard; Maj. Gen. Mary Kay Hertog, 2nd Air Force commander; Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander; Brig. Gen. Kory Cornum, 81st Medical Group commander; Col. Glen Downing, 81st TRW vice commander; and Chief Master Sgt. Lonnie Slater, 81st TRW command chief, march in Saturday's Gulf Coast Veterans Day parade in Biloxi.



Photo by Adam Bond

General Mueller speaks at the Biloxi Veterans Affairs Medical Center's Veterans Day celebration, Nov. 11.

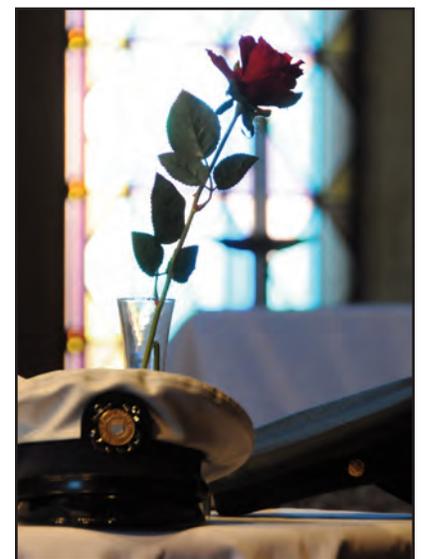
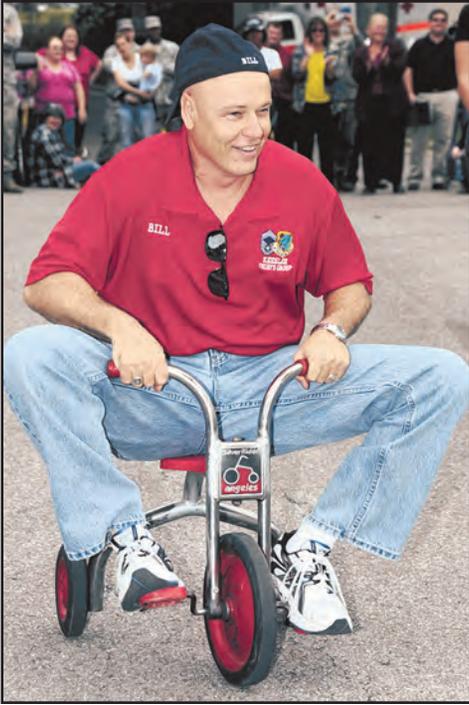


Photo by Kemberly Groue

A single rose is the centerpiece for the POW-MIA remembrance table at the Triangle Chapel's ecumenical Veterans Day worship service, Nov. 7.



Chief Master Sgt. Bill Abbott, 81st Training Group superintendent, took top honors in the tricycle race over Chief Master Sgts. Lonnie Slater, 81st Training Wing command chief; Curtis Jennings, 81st Mission Support Group superintendent, and Michael Anderson, 81st Medical Group superintendent.



FALL FESTIVAL

Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st TRW commander, braces as Lt. Col. Dan Gottrich, 338th Training Squadron commander, tries to dunk him at the dunking booth at the wing's fall festival, Nov. 10.



General Mueller shakes hands with Johnny Robinson, 81st Communications Squadron, one of 116 Unit Compliance Inspection "professional performers" honored at the festival. Four teams were also recognized. In addition to the UCI recognition program, Team Keesler also enjoyed a free cookout and games at marina park.

Photos by Kemberly Groue

Health insurance open season

The open season for health benefits runs through Dec. 13. During this period, employees can enroll or change your plans in the Employee Benefits Information System by logging on to <https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil> or calling 1-800-525-0102.

For more information, visit Room 214, Sablich Center, or call 376-8326.

Classes for job hunters

Job hunters can improve their chances for success with several upcoming classes at the airman and family readiness center.

Classes are held in the center's conference room in Sablich Center. There's a limit of 10 people per class, and registration is required.

Interview skills and salary negotiation — 11 a.m. Tuesday; 9 a.m. Jan. 20 or Feb. 24.

Federal format resume writing — 2 p.m. today and Dec. 8; 9 a.m. Jan. 19 and Feb. 2.

Civilian format resume writing — 2 p.m. Dec. 2 or 16; 9 a.m. Jan. 25.

Career skills assessment — 9 a.m. Jan. 26, Feb. 10, or March 10. This class is particularly valuable for upcoming high school graduates or those entering college.

After attending a class, call 376-8728 to have your resume reviewed.

For more information, call 376-8728.

Transition assistance briefings

The airman and family readiness center has a number of upcoming programs for members planning to separate or retire.

Mandatory pre-separation briefings — 1 p.m. Tuesdays for those separating with honorable discharges and 2:30 p.m. for retirees; Room 110, Sablich Center. Bring one copy of separation or retirement orders. This appointment is required by law, and must be accomplished 90 calendar days before the separation or retirement date. For short-notice separations or retirements, the briefing should be done as soon as possible.

Transition assistance program workshop — 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Dec 13-15, Room 108A, Sablich Center. Dress is business casual; no jeans, T-shirts or uniforms.

Women veterans after-TAP gathering — 8:30-11:30 a.m. Nov. 30, Room 108A, Sablich Center.

Veterans benefits briefing — 8-11 a.m. today and Dec. 16, Room 108A, Sablich Center.

Retirement briefings — intended for those with less than a year until retirement, 1-3:30 p.m. today and Dec. 16, Room 108A, Sablich Center.

To pre-register or for more information on these programs, call 376-8728.

Identification card requirements

To obtain identification cards, military personnel in uniform have priority in customer service, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Customer service is also open 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on non-training Fridays.

To be issued an identification card, two forms of legal identification are necessary. Dependents are required to be accompanied by their sponsor unless they have power of attorney or a Defense Department Form 1172.

For more information, call 376-8339.

By Daniel Elkins

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

RANDOLPH Air Force Base, Texas — Current civilian employees will have a single source to apply for vacant Air Force positions beginning Nov. 15 when they join other job seekers already using USAJOBS.

Almost all hiring will be done through USAJOBS following a seven-month pilot program using a resume-based system to fill vacant positions at 16 locations across the service.

Previously, Air Force civilian employees were referred to vacant positions based on skill codes while external candidates were referred based on resumes.

"We are leveling the field for both employees and selecting supervisors," said Michelle LoweSolis, the director of civilian force integration at the Air Force Personnel Center. "The change creates a standardized, resume-based application process for all applicants ensuring they are rated against the same criteria and a single referral list will be provided to selecting officials."

To help Air Force civilian employees make the transition, Airman and Family Readiness Center officials are assisting with resume writing. A proper resume should describe all work experience and the dates accomplished. Employees may contact their local Airmen and Family Readiness Center for more information on one-on-one consultations, resume writing workshops or answering general questions.

The change also includes a reduction in the number of days from 45 to 30 in which hiring managers must make a selection. This, along with other efforts, is aimed at meeting an 80-day hiring process initiative directed by the president earlier this year.

Air Force internal and external employees can search for vacancies through www.usajobs.gov. They can also learn more about civilian career opportunities at www.afciviliancareers.com.

www.afciviliancareers.com.

Officials said the new staffing solution will require Air Force employees new to USAJOBS to create an account, accessible by computer or smart phone 24 hours a day. Each account can store up to five different resumes that allow employees to clearly identify and highlight their skills and abilities when seeking future career opportunities. From the account, applicants can track when the application is received, when it is assessed for qualifications, if it is referred to a selecting official, and if selected for the position.

Job announcements available to current Air Force civilian candidates will include the "Current Permanent Air Force Employee" eligibility statement on jobs advertised in USAJOBS.

Applicants should identify themselves as current Air Force employees in the assessment questionnaire included in the vacancy announcement.

Twelve Air Force locations will not be transitioning to the

new recruitment process at this time and will continue advertising their internal vacancies on the AFPC secure employment website. Those bases include Arnold Air Force Base, Tenn., Brooks City-Base, Texas, Edwards AFB, Calif., Eglin AFB, Fla., Hanscom AFB, Mass., Hill AFB, Utah, Hurlburt Field, Fla., Kirtland AFB, N.M., Luke AFB, Ariz., Robins AFB, Ga., Tinker AFB, Okla., and Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. Officials will inform Air Force employees as these bases transition to the new system.

The transition to USAJOBS applies only to civilian employees paid out of the federal appropriated fund budget. It does not impact the more than 25,000 Air Force non-appropriated fund employees who are paid by money generated by NAF activities, such as Air Force clubs and golf courses.

For more information, current Air Force employees call the Total Force Service Center, 1-800-525-0102.

Contracting awards off to good start in fiscal 2011

81st Contracting Squadron

The 81st Contracting Squadron reported that in October, the first month of fiscal year 2011, 13 contract actions were awarded totaling \$3,029,299.34 with businesses in the surrounding areas such as Biloxi, Ocean Springs, D'Iberville, Gulfport, Pascagoula and Gautier.

These dollars represent "prime" contract dollars only and don't include subcontract spending.

Companies interested in bidding opportunities can find requirements valued more than \$25,000 posted on the Federal Business Opportunities website, www.fbo.gov. To find the 81st CONS, look under Agencies, then Department of the Air Force, then search by location to find 81ST CONS.

Future construction projects likely to exceed \$500,000 are posted on airforcesmallbiz.org under "Contract Opportunities." Once funded, these projects will also be posted on FBO. The 81st Contracting Squadron's posts are found under "Contract Base" under Keesler. For more information, call 377-3131.

Construction projects estimated below \$500K are procured through CSC, the base operating support contractor. For more information, call 377-4213.

To promote the resources available to local small businesses, Marcia McDowell and Melvin Estrade of the South Mississippi Contract Procurement Center recently provided a capability demonstration to members of the 81s CONS. SMCPCC provides procurement technical assistance to businesses throughout south Mississippi. Businesses new to government contracting can call the SMCPCC, 396-1288.

Hunting season — keep it safe, legal

Safety office

Hunting can provide a great pastime, but it can also be very dangerous. It's mandatory to have the information and training necessary to hunt safely and legally.

It's necessary to have a hunting license from the state of Mississippi. People born in 1972 or later must also complete a hunter education course approved by the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks. For more information, call 1-800-5GO-HUNT or log on to <http://www.mdwfp.com>.

It's illegal to hunt or shoot in, on or across any street, public road, public highway or railroad. It's considered hunting if a person possesses a firearm with a cartridge or shell in the barrel, magazine or clip attached to the firearm. It's also considered hunting if all ammunition is not located in an enclosed compartment, container, box or garment while the hunter is on any street public street, road, highway or railroad during open season for deer or turkey.

It's also illegal to hunt or kill any game animal, furbearing animal or game bird from any motorized vehicle or boat. However, squirrels and game birds may be hunted from a boat if the motor is off and progress of the boat has ceased.

A hat and vest or coat that covers the chest and back area in solid hunter orange is required by law. Anyone with the hunter must also wear the hunter orange when out deer hunting with firearms. The orange camouflage isn't legal.

Assume every rifle is loaded. Be sure of your target before you put your finger on the trigger.

Most fatalities result from mistaken-for-game accidents. Never cross a fence, ride a

Hunting,

from Page 12

four-wheeler or climb a tree with a loaded rifle.

Tell someone where you are going hunting and when to expect you back. Don't hunt alone. Carry a cell phone and stick to familiar area if you go by yourself.

Check the weather forecast before going hunting. Being properly dressed and prepared for the worst possible conditions is the best way to protect against hypothermia.

Be wary of the permanent tree stands made of plywood and pine 2x4s. These stands may have weakened from falling limbs, wind and moisture, and could now be unsafe. A safety harness should be worn in a tree stand to prevent injuries from falls.

Be careful when dragging large game. Each year, hunters die from heart attacks as a result of overexertion. Know your limits and take things slow if necessary.

Identity theft
is a
personal nightmare
and security risk.
Shred bills,
statements, letters,
old journals, records,
outdated
application forms
and any documents
that contain
your full name,
Social Security number,
duty title and
job information,
credit card,
bank account numbers
and names of
family members.
If you see documents
being removed from
trash cans, call the
81st Security Forces
Squadron
law enforcement desk,
377-3040.

Hospital's inpatient tower is taking shape

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Construction continues on the new 81st Medical Group Hospital Inpatient Tower toward an October 2011 completion date.

"We're roughly 30 percent completed as the new tower

was 'topped out' in October, meaning the final structural concrete was placed," said Capt. Matthew Clugston, senior project health facilities officer. "Concrete masonry walls are being filled in and exterior brick fascia is going up.

"Inside we continue to

rough in mechanical, electrical, plumbing and medical gas systems as interior partitions are framed on the first and second floors," the captain continued. "Major medical equipment utility coordination and layout are in progress for the cardiac catheterization labs and the emergency department X-ray room."

Rerouting of the temporary commercial gate access road is scheduled to be completed this month to enable raising the grade between the new temporary road and the new tower. Chilled water piping is being routed underground as the backfill happens. Moving the road also makes way for building the retention pond which holds storm-water runoff and allows sedimentation to occur in the pond before draining out to the bay.



Photo by Steve Pivnick

W.G. Yates and Sons Construction Company workers continue tower construction Nov. 4.

News tips?
Call the Keesler News, 377-4130,
or e-mail keeslernews@us.af.mil

Former MTL coordinates recovery care program

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

During Dan Ransom's 26-year military career, he spent two decades teaching professional military education and serving as a military training leader. Those responsibilities gave him valuable skills for his civilian job as Keesler's coordinator for the Air Force Recovery Care for Wounded, Ill and Injured program.

"These positions allowed me to learn how and who to refer people to," said Mr. Ransom, who served as an MTL in the 81st Training Group for eight years, in addition to assignments at the Air Force Academy for nine years and Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., for nine years. "I became proficient in management, as one key element is the ability to coordinate different functions and lead people.

Mr. Ransom became the first person to serve as recovery care coordinator at Keesler when assumed the position 15 months ago.

"Originally, there were 18 Air Force RCCs hired, and now there are 33 located throughout the continental U.S., Hawaii and Germany," he stated.

Mr. Ransom's job focuses primarily on the non-clinical needs of wounded warriors in Mississippi and Alabama, including active duty, Reserve and National Guard members.

"I work closely with Donna Anderson, our wounded warrior nurse case manager, and a multidisciplinary team to ensure that a service member's care is complete, both medically and non-medically," he explained. "The collaborative effort between many Team Keesler agencies in assisting our wounded, injured or ill is phenomenal."

The mental health clinic is instrumental in providing post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury screening and counseling. The airman and family readiness center assists with Air Force Aid Society loans and financial counseling. Naomi Kraima, counselor for the Disabled



Mr. Ransom

American Veterans transition assistance program, provides disability information for members who are being medically retired or separated.

"A large number of service members are referred to us from their units," Mr. Ransom pointed out. "Keesler's first sergeants and chiefs group are exceptional in using our program. It's truly a collective effort to ensure today's warriors are taken care of completely."

The non-clinical needs of service members are great — financial, legal and administrative.

One challenge Mr. Ransom faces is breaking through the bureaucratic red tape that's



inherent to the Air Force.

"Sometimes when regulations state that something can't be done, it is my job to find someone that can do it," he stressed. "The needs of service members don't go away when they're told we can't do anything for them — they still have house payments, car payments, children to feed.

"All of Keesler has been outstanding in understanding my role and referring people to me to assist," he continued. "We have one of the best first sergeant corps that I have seen in 27 years of service, as well as senior leaders that understand the program and encourage people to seek assistance."

Mr. Ransom knows his job is important for several reasons.

"For as long as I can remember, we've had the best, most comprehensive medical care in the world," he said. "However, someone

that's injured often has more problems than medical care, such as personnel and legal issues, and it's my job is to assist them so they can focus on their medical recovery. They want to know that their families are being taken care of while they recover."

The biggest rewards for Mr. Ransom are often small victories, like getting a treadmill for someone who needs to work out for health reasons, but who can't leave home due to post-traumatic stress because they have to have someone with them and their spouse works nights.

Mr. Ransom is passionate about taking care of people who are suffering.

"When you have a 30-year-old reserve senior airman who cries in your office because he was evicted from his apartment, had his car repossessed, exhausted all of his savings

and is filing for bankruptcy who can't understand why the military isn't taking care of them, especially when they have deployed three times since graduating from technical school — those types of situations really bother me," he admitted. "When I encounter a situation like that, it makes me mad and determined to find assistance for this individual, either through their unit, local non-profit agencies or other sources."

Mr. Ransom believe he has the most rewarding job in the Air Force,

"I'm honored to be able to assist those warriors who have sacrificed so much, deployment after deployment," he remarked. "All they really want to know is that someone is going to take of them and their families because they took care of ours."



Walking for wounded warriors

More than 300 people participated in the second annual "Wounded Warrior Walk" Saturday across the Ocean Springs-Biloxi Bridge. The event helped mark Keesler's observance of Warrior Care Month. The \$830 raised benefits wounded, injured or ill service members in the local area. Among the walkers were about 80 students from the 338th Training Squadron; other Keesler members; youth groups from Ocean Springs, Biloxi and Gulfport High Schools; members of the Mississippi Army National Guard and a number of civilians.

Photo by Steve Pivnick

Associate unit program expands to include Keesler's C-130J aircraft

By Tech. Sgt. Ryan Labadens

403rd Wing

and Capt. Joe Knable

19th Airlift Wing

Keesler is the home of a new active associate unit that blends the talents of Air Force Reserve and regular Air Force Airmen.

The 345th Airlift Squadron was officially reactivated in a ceremony Aug. 6 to form an association with the Reserve's 403rd Wing. The total force integration initiative not only provides regular Air Force and Reserve members with the opportunity to work and train together, but also helps reduce operational costs to taxpayers.

The 345th is the first C-130J active associate unit in the Air Force and the third active associate unit to activate under the 19th Airlift Wing at Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

Within the next few months, the new squadron will integrate 112 aircraft maintenance, operations and support personnel with the 403rd WG's Citizen Airmen.

"The active-duty operations personnel have been great to work with," said Lt. Col. Denson Tutwiler, 815th AS commander. "They understand Citizen Airmen. Some of them have backgrounds in strategic airlift, so they have worked with Reservists in the past."

The 345th AS's new commander, Lt. Col. Craig Williams, understands that the success of the association depends on the working relationships forged between his people and the Reservists.

"Establishing and maintaining an excellent working relationship is paramount," Colonel Williams said. "There are some areas where we both need to learn and understand the culture in which we work. Once that is accomplished, all things are possible, just like in any other unit."

Chief Master Sgt. Vincent Armata, 403rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron superintendent, stressed the importance of seamlessly integrating the regular Air Force and Reserve members.

"The bottom line with total force integration is to train together and ensure that the deployment package is manned with people who have the right skill sets to accomplish the mission," Chief Armata said.

Colonel Tutwiler said creating associations involving regular Air Force and Reserve, as well as the Air National Guard, offers benefits to the total force.

"The Air Force realized it could get much greater utilization from its aircraft by integrating active-duty with Reserve and Guard units," he said. "Adding active-duty personnel will allow the 403rd Wing to create more maintenance shifts and launch more aircraft. This truly is a case where the sum of the parts is greater than the whole."



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and drive.**

Call
**Airmen Against
Drunk Driving,
377-SAVE,
for a
safe ride home.**

**318 saves
so far this
year**

For lost and found items,
call the 81st Security Forces Squadron
investigations office,
377-4500,
7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Keesler nurse wins education award

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Maj. Amber Barker, 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron, has received the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses 2010 Award of Excellence in Education "for her commitment to educating patients and fellow health-care providers in an effort to improve patient health and the delivery of health care." The award was presented at the recent AWHONN national convention in Las Vegas.

Major Barker is maternal child flight nurse manager and element leader. Prior to her current assignment, she served as the nurse manager and obstetrics educator at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, the Air Force's largest and busiest labor and delivery unit.

The news release from AWHONN announcing the major's selection noted, "See-



Major Barker

ing a deficit in their training program, Major Barker created an education program for her unit, which raised educational requirements compliance from 15 to 100 percent

"In addition, she hosted the unit's first skills fair in over five years on a variety of topics ranging from newborn screening to postpartum hem-

orrhage. Major Barker's training course has become an annual activity."

Following her service in Iraq, Major Barker has been a regular speaker for a course educating nurses about self-care and nursing care in a combat zone.

AWHONN presents its Award of Excellence in Education to a member with an outstanding history of educating colleagues and others. Winners have made contributions to women's health, obstetric and neonatal nursing education, teaching and knowledge.

AWHONN's Chief Executive Officer Karen Peddicord said, "Major Barker's dedication to improving the education of nurses has improved the lives of women and newborns all across the world. Her passion for education has greatly impacted the nursing profession and helps nurses continue to provide the highest quality care."

Raise your voice - honor your country.
If you're interested in singing
the National Anthem
at base or community ceremonies,
call YoLanda Wallace, 377-1179.

Exchange carves up prices for post-Thanksgiving shopping

Army and Air Force Exchange Service Public Affairs
and Keesler Exchange

DALLAS — Military shoppers hungry for some tasty holiday prices may bite off more than they can chew as the exchange is serving up a buffet of deals the Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving.

The Keesler Exchange knows how crazy it can get and how early customers come out to shop, so the shopping mall opens at 10 p.m. Thanksgiving Day so shoppers have a comfortable environment while waiting for doors to open at 4 a.m. Nov. 26. Starting at 2 a.m., “take-a-tickets” are passed out for most popular items to ensure a smooth and safe shopping experience. The food court will be open and will take orders while shoppers are in line so they don’t lose their place. The process starts again at 1 a.m. Nov. 27, with take-a-ticket distribution starting at 4 a.m. and doors open at 7 a.m. The store remains open until 9 p.m. Nov. 26 and 27.

Hours on Nov. 28 are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Both days, there’ll be special deals on electronics, jewelry, clothing and many other items. The first 200 shoppers each day can increase their savings with scratch-off cards offering a variety of specials including \$100, \$50 and \$25



gift cards, \$10 off any purchase of \$100 or more and other bonuses.

Beyond Black Friday weekend, temporary and permanent price reductions are planned.

“Pricing is going to be dynamic through the end of the year,” said the exchange’s commander, Maj. Gen. Bruce Casella. “We’re going to be making adjustments throughout the holidays to ensure the Exchange is providing the best possible value for authorized patrons.”

For specific sale item information, log on to <http://www.blackfriday.info/sales/aafes-blackfriday-ad.html>

Base prepares to implement new ID system

Keesler is preparing to adopt the Defense Biometric Identification System.

With DBIDS, ID cards are scanned by gate guards with a hand-held device that provides real-time data that verifies identity electronically.

Everyone over the age of 16 who requires access to Keesler for more than three weeks must register in DBIDS.

Registration takes five minutes and involves scanning an ID card's barcode, verifying information and taking an electronic fingerprint.

All ID cards must have a barcode. Retirees who have ID cards without a barcode must obtain a new ID card from the military personnel section at the Sablich Center.

Registration sites are being set up at the pass and registration office in the visitor center across from the White Avenue Gate, the military personnel section in Sablich Center, the exchange pharmacy and the 81st Medical Group Hospital's information desk.

Registration for active-duty members and Defense Department employees is Jan. 4 through March 31. Registration for retirees and dependants is April 1 through June 31, but the pass and ID office won't turn away those wishing to register earlier.

Individuals without a DOD ID card who requires long-term access to Keesler, such as a caregiver for a dependent child, must be accompanied by the person requiring their services to the MPF to obtain an agent card. This card, along with state-issued ID, vehicle registration and proof of insurance, must be presented to pass and registration to obtain a DBIDS Access ID card.

Full implementation of DBIDS is scheduled for mid 2011.

For more information, call 377-3844.

A 3 - 5 minute steady tone
on the base siren is a
TORNADO WARNING —
take cover.



Sailing into the wild, blue water

Thirteen commanders from Keesler and their guests enjoyed a sunset sail on the Biloxi Schooner Nov. 11 hosted by the Biloxi Bay Commerce of Commerce. They were accompanied by retired Maj. Gen. Jim Garner, chamber president; retired Lt. Gen. Clark Griffith, chamber member, and Tina Ross-Seamans, chamber executive director.

Photo by Airman 1st Class
Heather Holcomb



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eight days a week

Arts and crafts center

Friday and Saturday — 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., holiday bazaar. For more information, call 377-2821.

Saturday — 10:30 a.m., pottery class, \$40. To sign-up, call 377-2821.

Bay Breeze Golf Course

Saturday — 7:30 a.m., hard-time turkey shoot golf tournament, \$25 for inclusive members, \$30 for greens members and \$40 for nonmembers. For more information, call 377-3832.

Nov. 25 — free golf all day. Cart and club rental not available.

Gaudé Lanes Bowling Center

Today — club member special, \$1.50 per game with free shoe rental.

Friday — 9 p.m. to midnight, glow bowling.

Saturday — 7 p.m. to midnight, glow bowling.

Keesler Club

Friday — 4-8 p.m., jazz night in the lounge; 5-8 p.m., Mongolian barbeque in the ballroom, 95¢ per ounce for members, \$1.10 per ounce

for nonmembers. For more information, call 377-2334.

Sunday — noon to 5 p.m., tailgate brunch and NFL Sunday Ticket, \$8.50, members receive a \$2 discount.

Tuesday — 5-8 p.m., members appreciation night, free food and giveaways; members only.

Nov. 25 — 10:30 a.m., noon and 1:30 p.m. seating times, Thanksgiving buffet in the ballroom, \$26.95, members receive a \$2 discount. For reservations, call 377-2334.

Vandenberg Community Center

Friday — 8 p.m., a fast scare, stuff the scarecrow contest, part of the late night dance. \$3 admission, nonprior service students only.

Saturday — 8 p.m., bobbing for apples and midnight karaoke, part of the late night dance. \$3 admission, nonprior students only.

Youth center

Monday-Wednesday — Thanksgiving holiday camp, ages 6-18. For more information, call 377-4116.

Dec. 1 is Holiday in the Park

Holiday in the Park is 4-7 p.m. Dec. 1 in marina park.

Festivities start with a performance by the drum and bugle corps, along with free food and drinks, hayrides, children's activities, horse and buggy rides and balloons.

At 5 p.m., Santa arrives by fire truck, the chapel choir sings carols and the petting zoo opens.

Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, speaks at 6 p.m., followed by the tree lighting and announcement of the holiday card contest.

"Holiday Season" is the theme of the card contest, which offers an opportunity to display unit spirit.

Organizations provide supplies, including card size of a 4-foot by 8-foot sheet of plywood for a free-standing display so no holes will be dug. The entire plywood card is painted front and back, with the name of squadron and point of contact on the back. Entries must be registered at the marina's outdoor recreation office, in place by noon Nov. 30 and removed by Jan. 4.

"Dragon Dollars" are the prizes — 300 for first place, 200 for second and 100 for third. Dragon Dollars may be used to offset the cost of holiday parties, rent a pavilion at the marina, use of the bowling center, golf tournaments or other base recreational facilities.

A holiday tree will be erected in the field along Larcher Boulevard in the former Muse Manor location where the holiday cards will be displayed.

For more information, call 377-0002.



Worship schedule

Roman Catholic

Daily Mass (except non-training Fridays), 11:15 a.m., Triangle Chapel.

Sunday Mass, 9 a.m., Triangle Chapel.

Protestant

Traditional service, 9 a.m. Sunday, Larcher Chapel.

Contemporary service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Triangle Chapel.

Gospel service, noon Sunday, Triangle Chapel

Islamic

Prayer is five times daily; Salaat ul-Jummah congregational prayer, noon on Friday, Building 2003. For more information, call 377-2520.

Latter-Day Saints

Student group service, 2 p.m. Sunday, Triangle Chapel. For more information, call 396-5274 or 1-616-881-1994.

Reduce — reuse — recycle

KEESLER NOTES

Home Away from Home

The chapel's Home Away from Home program has paired non-prior service Airmen with host families for Thanksgiving.

This program gives host families to welcome two students into their home, providing them with home cooked meal and a family experience on Thanksgiving Day.

Host families can be active duty, Reserve, Guard, retired or civil service with access to the base and the ability to host two or more Airmen.

Host registration forms are available and must be returned to the Fishbowl Student Ministry Center or any base chapel by Monday. Online registration is also available at <http://www.keesler.af.mil>.

For information, call Chaplain (Capt.) Ruben Covos or Staff Sgt. Tawny Crutcher, 377-2331.

Clinic holiday hours

The 81st Medical Group Hospital's primary care and specialty clinics maintain operating hours aligned with the 81st Training Wing schedule during the holiday season.

Except for the actual holidays, the clinics are open 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fridays. Clinics have reduced staffs on non-training Fridays.

Clinics are closed on federal holidays and Air Education and Training Command family days, Nov. 26, Dec. 27 and Jan. 3.

The emergency department is always open.

Supply classes

Quarterly supply classes are held in Room 109, Taylor Logistics Building.

Block I basic supply class is 9 a.m. Dec. 15.

All newly-assigned supply custodians and resource managers are required to attend.

For more information, contact Patrick Governale, 377-5998 or patrick.governale.ctr@us.af.mil, or Paulette Powell, 377-2270, paulette.powell.1.ctr@us.af.mil.

Block IIA-Bench Stock is 9-9:30 a.m. Dec 9. To schedule an appointment, call Crystal Simpson, 377-9955.

Block IIB-Repair Cycle is 10-11 a.m. Dec 9. To schedule an appointment, call Nathaniel Parks, 377-2310.

Block III training is 1 p.m. Dec. 15. All newly-assigned supply equipment custodians are required to attend as well as all other custodians annually.

For more information, contact Willie McDonald, 377-2660 or willie.mcdonald.1.ctr@us.af.mil or Paulette Powell, 377-2270, paulette.powell.1.ctr@us.af.mil

Visitor center hours

The Keesler Visitor Center is open 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and closed on weekends.

Gators win Commander's Trophy at fall festival

By Susan Griggs

Keesler News editor

The 334th Training Squadron Gators showed the same fierce competitiveness in the sports arena as they did in the drill down arena by claiming the 81st Training Wing Commander's Trophy Nov. 11 at Keesler's Fall Festival.

The Gators, who won four of the five 81st Training Group drill competitions this season, tallied 180 points to win the trophy.

"The Commander's Trophy is presented to the squadron that accumulates the most points throughout the sports year," said sports director Sam Miller. "Points are based on participation in intramural sports, special events and sports and fitness council meeting attendance. Addi-

tional points can be earned by top finishers in each sport or special event."

The Gators participated in all intramural sports offered throughout the year, with third place in intramural basketball, second place in their league and overall in intramural golf, second place in their league and first place overall in intramural soccer and first place overall in intramural flag football.

Of the 26 other units that competed in Keesler sports events during 2010, six other units scored more than 100 points — 334th TRS, 146; 332nd TRS, 134; 81st Logistics Readiness Squadron, 132; 335th TRS, 130; 81st Medical Support Squadron, 110, and 81st Training Support Squadron, 106 points.

The 81st LRS won the trophy last year.



Photo by Kemberly Groue

Brig. Gen. Andrew Mueller, 81st Training Wing commander, presents the Commander's Trophy to Lt. Col. Michael Callender, 334th TRS.

Get up,
get out,
get fit
together



Nurse cherishes experience of Marine Corps Marathon

By Steve Pivnick

81st Medical Group Public Affairs

Kristin Reed almost met her goal of finishing the Oct. 31 Marine Corps Marathon in four hours, 30 minutes. Reed, one of almost 22,000 runners, finished the Washington, D.C. event in 4:38.

Reflecting on her participation, Reed, a nurse in the 81st Inpatient Operations Squadron, said, "The experience put meaning to the words 'sacrifices of war.' I ran past a Marine in a wheelchair who was a double-leg amputee. Four of his buddies ran with him in full uniform — one on each corner — carrying rucksacks. Two of them carried the young man's prosthetic legs on top of their rucks. It reminded me why I became a member of the Air Force Nurse Corps — to take care of my



Reed

brothers and sisters out there taking care of me.

"I also ran past three gentlemen carrying flags — the

American flag, the Marine flag and the POW flag," Reed continued. "It made me want to run in support of something or to raise money for a meaningful organization. Up to this point, I've only run for myself, never to represent someone else.

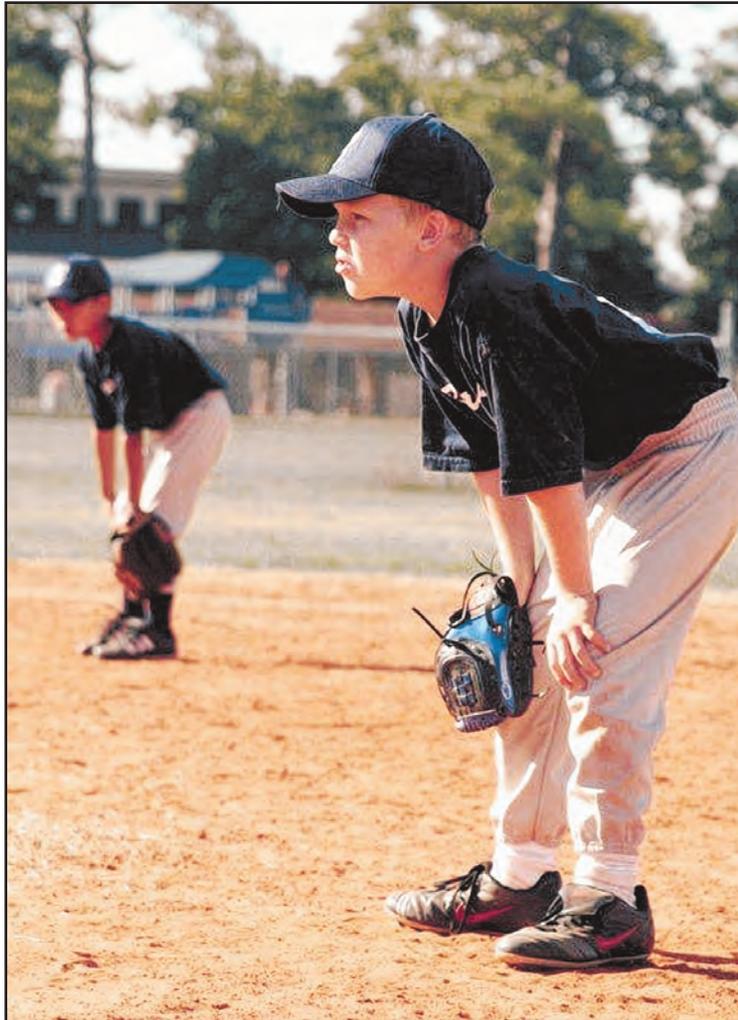
As I ran, I heard one gentleman yell out to another, then I saw them embrace. I'm certain I witnessed the reunion of two long-lost friends. They continued to run side-by-side while chatting as though they had much to catch up on.

"As an added bonus, all of this took place in our nation's capital," she added. "Washington D.C. is beautiful, and the monuments symbolize where we've been as a country and where we continue to progress and grow together."

Little fields grow young dreams

Seven-year-old Darius Villamor, left, and A.J. Wright, 8, are two of the young athletes who participated in youth baseball this year. Darius is the son of Franco and Gemmalyn Villamor, 81st Medical Operations Squadron, and A.J. is the son of Jonathan and Lisa Wright, 81st Contracting Squadron. The season ends Saturday. The youth center is accepting registrations for youth basketball for ages 3-14 until Nov. 30. A parent meeting is 6 p.m. Dec. 2. Coaches are needed. Games are played Jan. 15-March 19. The fee is \$50 for the first child and \$25 for each additional child in a family covers uniforms and a participation award. For more information, call the youth center, 377-4116.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Kimberly Moore



Volunteer — get connected.